

COMMENT FORM

Public Scoping Meetings

We need your input. Please take a few minutes to provide your comments or questions for the USDA RUS Federal Environmental Impact Statement process and return your completed form today or mail by June 29, 2009. Your comments help in the planning and implementation of the project. **Thank you.**

Completing this form will automatically add you to our mailing list. If you prefer to not be on the mailing list, please check the box below.

☐ I do not wish to be on the project mailing list

Which meeting did you attend? Wanamingo 6/17/09

Please check the following issues that are important to you for transmission line siting.

- ☐ Project Purpose and Need
- ☒ Visual / Aesthetic resources
- ☒ Proximity to residences
- ☒ Land use (agriculture, residential, recreation)
- ☐ Water resources (floodplains, river crossings)
- ☒ Biological resources (wildlife habitat, raptors)
- ☐ Historic and cultural sites
- ☒ Radio or television interference
- ☒ Noise
- ☒ Health and safety
- ☐ Other: _____

What additional key issues should be addressed when assessing the potential impacts of this project?

I-016-001

→ How will structures w/in the ROW be compensated?
→ Why following existing corridors (major Hwys) are not
the most sought after route. PLEASE USE EXISTING
HWY and UTILITY CORRIDORS!!

Hampton • Rochester • La Crosse 345 kV Transmission Project

I-016-001

Your comment has been noted. RUS anticipates that the CapX2020 Utilities would pay for land rights based on an independent appraisal and will work with property owners to negotiate easement payments after the permitting process.

The Draft Environmental Impact Statement will be available on the RUS website at: <http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/ees/eis.htm>. Comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement will be solicited after its publication.

If you own property in one of the proposed corridors, please indicate all the existing uses of your property below:

☐ Agriculture ☒ Residential ☐ Conservation Easement
☐ Commercial ☐ Industrial ☐ Other: _____

Please describe any special uses or circumstances on your property that should be considered when assessing the Project. Please indicate the location of your property.

I-016-002

Location - Sec 16 Mazeppa Twp see attached map

New home construction scheduled for early 2010 on our property. A shed will be located w/in 80 feet of S property line where the proposed line w/ be routed. And a home will be located w/in 150'-200' of proposed line. Our neighbor's home is located w/in proposed ROW. (Brian Distel's, the property to the south of ours).

I-016-003

We are all concerned about the exposure these lines will create, the noisiness, and the decreased land values.

In your opinion, what are the most sensitive resources (biological, cultural, recreational, ect.) in the Project area and why?

I-016-004

Biological -> Property is an old growth, hardwood forest. 150-200 year old oaks are prevalent throughout property. Extreme slopes

I-016-005

and native plant communities are also on property. (Trout Lily & wild ginger and other rare/endangered species)

Recreation/wildlife -> Property serves as a wildlife corridor connecting bottomlands of the Zumbro River to the bluff tops above.



I-016-002

Your comment has been noted. Potential impacts to residential land use will be addressed in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

I-016-003

Your letter/comment card has been noted. Please refer to comment response I-016-002.

I-016-004

Your letter/comment card has been noted. Potential impacts to vegetation will be addressed in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

I-016-005

Your comment has been noted. Potential impacts to vegetation, including federal and state regulated species, will be addressed in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

In your opinion, was the project description, purpose, and need for the project adequately explained? If not, what additional information is needed?

I-016-006

Need more information on why these lines do not follow
major highways. The landscapes along major highways are
already ruined, why ruin the landscape of portions of
the Zumbro River Valley virgin

Please tell us how to reach you.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: Beau Kennedy

Representing (Optional): Myself

Mailing Address: PO Box 132

City: Goodhue State: MN Zip Code:

Daytime Phone (Optional): 507-301-1545

Public participation for the Federal, Minnesota, and Wisconsin permitting processes will be ongoing for the Hampton-Rochester-La Crosse 345 kV Transmission Project. If you sign up for the mailing list, you will be notified when opportunities to participate are being planned.

Please plan to continue your involvement in the process and provide your comments. We appreciate your input.

I-016-006

Your comment has been noted. The criteria used to route the transmission line is described in the Macro Corridor Study which is available on the RUS website at:

<http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/ees/eis.htm>. These criteria and routing process will be addressed in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement. The project is still in the development and planning stages and the utilities have not yet permitted a route for the transmission line.

